

In the past year, the corporate media have flexed more and more control over the 'free-speech' content of OUR airwaves. Giants like Clear Channel have refused to sell advertising time for issues it opposes, and since it also operates billboards and concert venues it has enforced its opinions by limiting free access to those means as well.

To reward such behavior by allowing a more forceful strangle-hold on OUR airwaves is outrageous. If corporations are allowed to monopolize the last bastions of public information, the consequences WILL be catastrophic. Their effects may not be immediately felt, but they will happen none-the-less.

If corporate executives control the news we listen to and/or see, they control our ability to cooperatively participate in the democratic process. There has been already, in recent weeks, movements to blacklist artists because of their political opinions.

The ability of fewer and fewer people to exert such Orwellian control over whomever they choose is as un-American an ideal as I care to think of.

Please, as the governing body overseeing the PUBLIC airwaves, preserve the ability of our children to live in a free and democratic society. It is as simple as that. Either we are free to express ourselves, or we are not free at all. The choice lies in your hands.